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PA000.05171-US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Carl Q. Howard

Serial Number: 10/585,386

Filed: 07/06/2006

Group Art Unit: 3651

Examiner: Hess, Douglas A.

Title: DEVICE TO REDUCE NOISE TRANSMISSION  
THROUGH THE GAP BETWEEN ESCALATOR STEPS

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JAN 29 2008

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on October 29, 2007.

Please amend the application as follows.